(c) and (d) The suggestion has recently been made to all potential States. Quantum of Central participation would be decided on receipt of specific proposals from them.

Tidal power from Gulf of Kutch

1464. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since given techno-economic clearance to the 900 MW Tidal Power Project in the Gulf of Kutch;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be taken up for implementation; and

(c) whether the project is proposed to be taken up in the Central Sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) The proposed 900 MW Tidal Power Plant at Gulf of Kutch, Gujarat at an estimated cost of about Rs. 6000 crores and a Plant load factor of only about 21 percent has not yet been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) and (c) The project is unlikely to be taken up for implementation in the nea r future unless the economic viability can be improved. If the economics are favourable the whole question of putting together a financing plan has to be addressed in consultation with State Government, national and international financial institutions etc.

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Technology

1465. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to set up power plants based on ocean thermal energy conversion technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof; indicating the number, location cost and generating capacity thereof; and

(c) by when the first plant is likely to go operational and what is its location ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) A memorandum of understanding was signed on 24th January, 1994 between Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency and Tamil Nadu Electricity Board with M/s Sea Solar Power (SSP), U.S.A. for purchase of Power from M/s Sea Solar Power (SSP), USA, who will build, own and operate a 100 MW floating Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Power Plant off Kulashetkharpathnam in V.O. Chidambarnar district in Tamil Nadu at a cost of about US Dollars 250 Million. M/s SSP will submit the detailed Project Report for various clearances by State and Central Government Ministries/Agencies.

(b) and (c) M/s SSP expect to commission the first OTEC plant of 100 MW capacity in about 5 to 6 years. Decision to build and locate more such OTEC plants will be taken after the performance of the first plant has been proven satisfactorily.

Proposal to develop non-conventional energy sources

1466. SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI :
SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to develop Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Madhya Pradesh and other States; and

(b) if so, the details there of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is implmenting a country-wide programme for development, dissemination and popularisation of various types of non-conventional energy systems and devices through State/UT Government departments/and nodal implementing agencies including in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

During 1993-94, it is proposed to take up the installation of 12,500 biogas plants, 2.30 lakh improved chulhas, 25,000 solar cookers, 2,912 square metre solar thermal collector area in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In addition, installation of solar biomass gasifiers, solar photovoltaic systems and wind pumping systems are also being taken up under various programmes of the Ministry.